

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

As indicated below, Applicant is canceling Claims 1, 3–6, 9 and 12–22 without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 23–25 remain as previously presented.

- 1.–22. (Cancelled)
23. (Previously Presented) A system for retrieving data in a computer network environment, the system comprising:
 - a plurality of storage media;
 - a plurality of media modules in communication with the plurality of storage media, each of the plurality of media modules being configured to store and retrieve data from the plurality of storage media, the plurality of media modules executing on a first plurality of computing devices;
 - a second computing device configured to support the operation of at least one software application requesting data to be retrieved from at least one of the plurality of storage media, the second computing device coupled to the first plurality of computing devices through a network, the second computing device further comprising an interface module configured to receive from at least one of the plurality of media modules the data to be retrieved;
 - a plurality of indexes, each of the plurality of indexes being stored on one of the first plurality of computing devices and being maintained by the respective media module executing on the same computing device, at least one of the plurality of indexes further identifying a specific location on the at least one of the plurality of storage media where the data to be retrieved is stored;
 - a retrieval manager executing on a third computing device, the third computing device coupled to the first plurality of computing devices and to the second computing device through the network; and
 - a storage map stored on the third computing device and maintained by the retrieval manager, the storage map providing, through the retrieval manager, an indication to the interface module as to which of the plurality of indexes has

Appl. No. : **10/720,842**
Filed : **November 24, 2003**

information regarding the most recent location of the data to be retrieved from the at least one of the plurality of storage media.

24. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 23, wherein the most recent location of the data to be retrieved is different than the location where the data to be retrieved was first stored on the plurality of storage media.

25. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 24, wherein the second computing device is unaware of the most recent location of the data to be retrieved prior to the request by the at least one software application.